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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Comments on Naval Guided Missiles
and the Soviet Submarine Program

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Naval Guided Missiles

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1. Marshal of the Soviet Union K. S. Moskalenko's [i.e. Biryuzov's] missile command has no jurisdiction over naval guided missiles. Coordination of the operational employment of (strategic) missiles is provided for in the general defense plan; knowledge of the details is confined to the Minister of Defense, his deputy, and the strategic missile commander. The role of the missile commander will be to coordinate, not to command.

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SECRET

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2. Submarines equipped with guided missiles are controlled by the Chief Directorate of the Submarine Forces. [redacted]

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3. The organization for the production and supply of naval guided missiles is similar to that of the ground forces. The Navy has its own Chief Artillery Directorate (GAU) on Bolshoy Komsomolskiy pereulok (near Dzerzhinskiy ploshchad), which cooperates with Moskalenko and Chief Marshal of Artillery S. S. Varentsov. It supervises the manufacture of all types of naval equipment and naval construction carried out in plants allocated to production for the Navy. Guided missiles for the Navy are produced by the same factories as the missiles for the rest of the armed forces. These factories work according to a plan and a budget prepared for them by the naval GAU.

4. A number of young naval officers who had a minimum of technical ability were not demobilized in the program for general reduction of the armed forces, but were sent to the Dzerzhinskiy Engineering-Artillery Academy to be trained as specialists in the use of all types of guided missiles.

5. Before he was removed as Commander-in-Chief of the Soviet Navy, Admiral of the Fleet Nikolay G. Kuznetsov had protested about the lack of ships in the Soviet Navy; but Khrushchev, supported by the General Staff, decided to reduce the Navy and ordered a number of old vessels to be scrapped. The submarine program was not affected by this policy.

Soviet Submarine Program

6. Students at a lecture were told in 1959 that the USSR had "up to ten" nuclear-powered submarines. The impression made was that this statement was deliberately unrevealing. This construction is, however, being given priority. [redacted] the 1961 Soviet statement that the USSR possessed more nuclear submarines than the United States was [redacted] exaggerated:

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the problem of nuclear propulsion had been solved but construction, trials and training of crews took time, and [redacted] "very few" nuclear submarines actually existed.]

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7. Components for nuclear-powered submarines are produced at the Sormovo yard [N 56-22, E 43-50]. This is one reason why Gorkiy is a "restricted" area which may not be visited even by people from the Satellite countries. Steel is supplied to Sormovo by AZOVSTAL [Azov Steel Plant in Zhdanov, N 47-06, E 37-33].

8. Components for nuclear-powered submarines are assembled at Zelenodolsk near Kazan in a yard where during the war U.S. small craft (kateri) were assembled. This equipment is shipped in large crates to an "assembly point" on the Neva River near Leningrad, and also to one "in the north". A similar "assembly point" in the Far East receives equipment sent from Zelenodolsk. Underground shelters are being built for the "assembly point" near Leningrad.

9. The mainspring for submarine designing, construction, and testing, including nuclear submarines, is in the north, where under ice training is carried out.

10. Underground submarine pens are being built in the north and along the Black Sea coast.

Aircraft Carriers

11. Aircraft carriers are not being built because they are too expensive.

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